



8:00-8:45 Registration

9:00-10:30 Keynote

Smartphones and Snapchat and Sexting, Oh My! Interactive Screen Media and T(w)een Mental Health. *Michael Rich, MD, MPH, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA.* Today's youth spend more time on interactive screen media devices than they do in any other activity, frequently multitasking with several screens for a cumulative screen exposure of 12 hours or more. Parents, clinicians, and society have concerns and questions about media effects on physical, mental, and social health. Michael Rich, MD, MPH, "The Mediatrician" will review research demonstrating why we must take media seriously as a powerful developmental influence, the unique effects resulting from how youth use mobile devices and social media, and how child life professionals can recognize, prevent and intervene on media-related problems in young people.

10:45-11:45 Session 1

A: Helping Children Navigate a Child Abuse Evaluation. *Vanessa Finnerty, MS, CCLS, Yale New Haven Children's Hospital, New Haven, CT.* Helping children cope with the investigative procedures following an allegation of suspected child abuse is a challenge. Learn about how the child abuse clinic at Yale New Haven Children's Hospital enlisted the services of a child life specialist to create a child-friendly environment that aims to reduce a child's anxiety during a visit that may entail a forensic interview, medical exam, and sexually transmitted infection testing. The presentation will also cover how child life was introduced to and funded in this clinic.

B: Caregiver Wellness Program: A Look at Maximizing Family Centered Care. *Leah Terrill, MEd, CCLS, CTRS & Claire Wilms, MS, LICSW, Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, Charlestown, MA.* At Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, child life and social work collaborated to change the traditional parent support group into a Caregiver Wellness Program. Realizing the traditional group was not meeting the needs of families, child life and social work commissioned a focus group to review the traditional group model and identify barriers and solutions. The Caregiver Wellness Program includes events for self-care, peer support and relationship building between staff and families, and promotes holistic health. By responding to the needs of families, child life and social work created a wellness program that better serves pediatric caregivers.

C: Directors Meeting. An opportunity for child life program directors to network and share resources and ideas. For confidentiality, this session is limited to program directors and managers. *This session will start at 10:45 and continue through lunch. Lunch will be provided.*

11:45-1:15 Vendors/Lunch

1:15-2:45 Session 2

A: Child Life Collaboration with DCF and Involuntary Removal. *Caelin Mooney, MS, CCLS, & Deborah Levine, MSW, LICSW, Baystate Children's Hospital, Springfield, MA.* Child life specialists are the perfect match to facilitate a positive "see you later" for patients and their caregivers who are being asked to leave the patient's bedside due to suspected abuse or neglect. These situations are often highly emotional, and caregivers often feel very defensive. Child life specialists can help support and guide caregivers in making the "see you later" process meaningful, heartfelt, and supportive of the child's attachment development. Child life can also support the children who later experience hospitalization alone, without a securely attached caregiver.

B: Full Steam Ahead: Building Partnerships Between Museums and Healthcare Institutions. *Alice Garfield, MAT, Artful Healing Coordinator, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA; Kirsten Getchell, MS, CCLS & Laurel Anderson MS, CCLS, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA; Janna Doherty, MA, Early Childhood Program Manager, Museum of Science, Boston, MA.* This session will focus on the benefits and challenges of long-term community partnerships between child life professionals and museum programs, using examples from two different ongoing partnerships. Presenters from the MFA Artful Healing Program at Boston Children's Hospital and from the STEAM Team partnership between the Museum of Science and MGHfC will discuss how each of these was created, as well as addressing challenges and successes of these programs. They will offer insights into how attendees can form partnerships with institutions in their own communities using effective communication and common values. Child life staff from BCH will share their experience working with the Artful Healing Program and offer insight into how child life professionals can benefit from such collaborations. Presenters will answer questions and provide examples of hands-on STEAM activities.

3:00-4:30 Plenary

Courageous Parents Network: Accompanying You Accompanying Families of Seriously Ill Children. *Blyth Lord, EdM, & Kerri Padgett, LMT, CPMT, Newton, MA.* Courageous Parents Network (CPN) is a free, online/mobile destination to share with families of children living with serious illness. The Network's goal is to compassionately address isolation and anxiety, and to promote family resiliency and confident, informed decision-making. Through its digital resources, including videos of parents and providers, podcasts, downloadable guides, and blog, CPN offers 24/7 perspective from families facing similar challenges and professional guidance across the range of psycho-social and emotional issues that accompany serious illness in children.

Conference Vendors as of 9/7

